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In re Iacovelli, M. et al.

Reply to Office Action of May 15, 2003

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A vehicle floor mat comprising:

a molded flexible mat having a raised peripheral lip provided on side edges of the molded mat;

a first area contained within the peripheral lip, said first area having a recessed bottom surface and a plurality of raised protrusions extending from said bottom surface thereby providing a texturized surface;

at least one third area having a substantially smooth bottom surface, said at least one third area provided within said first area of the mat and adjacent to said texturized surface pattern; and

at least one wear plate fixed upon said smooth bottom surface of said at least one third area of the said molded mat.

Claim 2 (original): The vehicle floor mat according to claim 1, further comprising:

a second area contained within the peripheral lip, said second area having a recessed floor and a plurality of elongated parallel ridges protruding from the recessed floor.

Claim 3 (original): The vehicle floor mat according to claim 2, wherein said second area further comprises a plurality of raised bumps on the recessed floor in between the parallel ridges.

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Claim 4 (original): The vehicle floor mat according to claim 3, wherein said first area of the molded mat generally covers an upper section and a lower section of a substantial floor area of the mat, and said second area of the molded mat generally covers a middle section of the substantial floor area of the mat.

Claim 5 (original): The vehicle floor mat according to claim 4, wherein said at least one wear plate comprises a heel plate located in the lower section of the mat.

Claim 6 (original): The vehicle floor mat according to claim 4, wherein said at least one wear plate comprises a toe plate located in the upper section of the mat.

Claim 7 (original): The vehicle floor mat according to claim 4, wherein said at least one wear plate comprises a toe plate located in the upper section of the mat and a heel plate located in the lower section of the mat.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A vehicle floor mat comprising:

a molded flexible mat having a front surface with a raised peripheral lip provided on side edges of the molded mat;

a first area contained within the peripheral lip, said first area having a first texturized surface pattern;

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a second area contained within the peripheral lip, said second area having a second texturized surface pattern different from said first pattern, wherein said first area of the molded mat generally covers an upper section and a lower section of a substantial floor area of the mat, and said second area of the molded mat generally covers a middle section of the substantial floor area of the mat;

at least one third area having a substantially smooth recessed bottom surface, said at least one third area provided within said first area of the mat adjacent to said first texturized surface pattern; and

at least one wear plate fixed upon said recessed bottom surface of said at least one third area of the said molded mat.

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Claim 9 (original): The vehicle floor mat according to claim 8, wherein said at least one wear plate is surrounded at its edges by a contoured wall, raised and extending up from the bottom surface.

Claim 10 (original): The vehicle floor mat according to claim 8, wherein said at least one wear plate comprises a metal plate having a texturized surface pattern.

Claim 11 (original): The vehicle floor mat according to claim 8, wherein said at least one wear plate comprises a toe plate located in the upper section of the mat and a heel plate located in the lower section of the mat.

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Claim 12 (original): The vehicle floor mat according to claim 8, further comprising a back side of the molded mat, said back side having at least one gripping section for gripping the vehicle floor, said gripping section having a plurality of outwardly extending protrusions.

Claim 13 (original): The vehicle floor mat according to claim 12 wherein said at least one gripping section located on the back side of the mat opposite said wear plate fixed to the front surface of the mat.

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Claim 14 (previously added): The vehicle floor mat according to claim 1, wherein said at least one wear plate comprises a metal plate having a texturized surface pattern.

Claim 15 (previously added): The vehicle floor mat according to claim 1, wherein said at least one third area is contained within a surrounding wall raised and extending up from said bottom surface.

Claim 16 (previously added): The vehicle floor mat according to claim 10, wherein said metal plate is fixed upon said smooth bottom surface of said at least one third area of the molded mat by a plurality of rivets passing through said floor mat.

Claim 17 (previously added): The vehicle floor mat according to claim 14, wherein said metal plate is fixed upon said smooth bottom surface of said at least one third area of the molded mat by a

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plurality of rivets passing through said floor mat.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A vehicle floor mat comprising:

a molded flexible mat having a front surface with a raised peripheral lip provided on side edges of the molded mat;

a first area contained within the peripheral lip, said first area having a first texturized surface pattern;

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a second area contained within the peripheral lip, said second area having a second texturized surface pattern different from said first pattern, wherein said first area of the molded mat generally covers an upper section and a lower section of a substantial floor area of the mat, and said second area of the molded mat generally covers a middle section of the substantial floor area of the mat;

at least one third area having a ~~substantially smooth~~ recessed bottom surface; and

at least one metal plate having a texturized surface pattern and fixed upon said recessed bottom surface of said at least one third area of the molded mat, said at least one wear plate metal plate is surrounded at its edges by a contoured wall raised and extending up from the said recessed bottom surface,

wherein said metal plate is fixed upon said ~~smooth~~ recessed bottom surface of said at least one third area of the said molded mat by a plurality of rivets passing through said floor mat.